

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 27 with the following amended paragraph:

The monitoring apparatus 1 includes a light source 5 (e.g., a light emitting diode) and a detector 6 (e.g., a photodiode), which are both integrated into a holder 7 of the output coupler mirror 2 on the side of the output coupler mirror 2 facing the laser resonator 4. The light source 5 and the detector 6 are diametrically opposed relative to the output coupler mirror 2 and are disposed at the same angle to the mirror surface 8 of the output coupler mirror 2 facing the laser resonator 4 and lateral to the output coupler mirror 2. The light emitting diode 5 and the photodiode 6 simultaneously ~~[[6]]~~ form an end of the vacuum inside of the resonator from atmosphere.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

The monitoring apparatus 10 of Fig. 2 differs from the monitoring apparatus 1 only in that it ~~[[20]]~~ is disposed on the side of the output coupler mirror 2 facing away from the laser resonator 4 and therefore monitors the functionality of the other surface 11 of the output coupler mirror 2.